

## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH THE BISHOP'S OFFICE



## STATEMENT BY BISHOP MICHAEL OLSON ON THE DEATH OF FATHER STEPHEN JASSO

February 12, 2021

The parishioners of All Saints Catholic Church, the priests, deacons, religious men and women of the Diocese of Fort Worth and I are saddened by the death today of Father Stephen Jasso, TOR.

Father Jasso served the North Side Catholic parish of All Saints faithfully and tirelessly for 23 years before his retirement in 2018. He was a faithful Franciscan friar and priest who watched over the Lord's flock with a Shepherd's care.

Father Jasso's service extended beyond the confines of All Saints parish to men and women of all faiths in Fort Worth and throughout Texas. He was a vigilant advocate for immigrants and the disenfranchised in our community. His counsel was respected and valued by those in local and state government and public service.

Father Jasso was especially passionate about Catholic education as an apostolate that provided access to participation in society for those who otherwise would be excluded. In many ways, All Saints Catholic School is a tribute and legacy of his priestly ministry.

His final lesson to his flock was his witness to the human dignity and the fundamental right to life by his suffering and courageous perseverance with Lou Gehrig's disease.

As we thank God for the life and ministry of Father Stephen Jasso, please join me in praying for the repose of his soul, for the solace of the parishioners of All Saints Catholic Church and school, and of his family and for the encouragement of his fellow religious brothers and his fellow priests.